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WELCOME TO SPIN CITY

AS GAS PRICES HIT RECORD HIGHS, MORE LONDONERS ARE TURNING TO GOOD OLD-FASHIONED PEDAL POWER

PAGE 3



LONDON

metro

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Weekend, April 5-8, 2012



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Build patios, and they will come

Downtown London.
Spokesperson says city staff back core patios



ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Downtown London is putting the "full-court press" on city

hall to ensure restaurants can open patios this summer.

Janette MacDonald, Downtown London manager, meets next week with city staff to hash out a pitch that will likely be thrown to council's planning committee on April 16.

"We think this can be done, so we're going to move ahead boldly," MacDonald said.

Zoning rules bar most

downtown restaurants from putting tables outside because they take up too much sidewalk. MacDonald said the solution could lie in allowing businesses to "rent" a parking space or bus-stop turnout for the summer and build patios there.

It's worked in other cities, she said, naming Halifax and Montreal as examples. There, restaurant owners are permit-

Dining alfresco

5 feet

The amount of sidewalk that must be unobstructed under city rules.

tures to install temporary structures that elevate the patios slightly off the ground. Many

surround the areas with fencing and hang flowerpots to pretty things up a bit.

"We don't have to reinvent the wheel. We just have to find something that fits," MacDonald said.

A change to liquor laws is what makes MacDonald's suggestion feasible. Before, servers weren't allowed to carry alcohol across sidewalks to get to

patios. That changed last year.

Kevin Greaves, owner of Jambalaya restaurant (119 Dundas Street), is among those who are itching to offer customers outdoor seating.

"Everybody wants to be on patios (when the weather's nice). No one wants to be locked in a restaurant," he said. "It's not just (important) for me. It's for all the restaurants here."



THROWS OF PASSION

Toronto Blue Jays outfielder Jose Bautista throws during workouts in Cleveland on Wednesday, in preparation for Thursday's opening-day Major League Baseball game against the Cleveland Indians at Progressive Field. See our baseball preview on page 20. AMY SANCETTA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Easy on the eyes, and the wallet

J.Crew president Jenna Lyons on the art of mixing high- and low-style to produce a classic American look

PAGE 17

No paper on Friday

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On the web

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Keeping
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A made-in-Canada solution to safe surfing gives peace of mind to public Wi-Fi users. For the full story, see metronews.ca

Mobile news



Sparks fly on Twitter between Ben Mulroney and a former chief of staff to his father after Norman Spector muses about whether Mulroney's Progressive Conservatives and Jean Chrétien's Liberals cut a quiet deal. Scan for the story.

Health scandal

Ex-minister says
bureaucrats should
have seen red flags
at Ornge

Former Ontario health minister George Smitherman is pointing the finger at health bureaucrats for failing to keep an eye on Ornge.

Smitherman says the Ministry of Health should have seen the red flags at the troubled air ambulance service before it became a full-blown scandal.

He says the real question is at what point did they decide that they were dealing with a "rogue entity" and what steps did they take to bring it to heel.

Smitherman signed the original agreement that created Ornge in 2005, but left health in 2008 to take on another cabinet post.

Ornge has been mired in controversy for months over high executive salaries and allegations that public dollars may have been used for personal gain.

Auditor general Jim McCarter has criticized the governing Liberals for giving Ornge \$730 million over five years with virtually no oversight of how the money was spent.

He said despite numerous red flags, the government failed to monitor Ornge as it used the money to make "questionable" business deals.

The same day McCarter's report was tabled, embattled Health Minister Deb Matthews introduced new legislation that she said will bring more oversight to Ornge.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Federal Minister of State for Science and Technology Gary Goodyear talks to business leaders Wednesday during a stop at Western University's Research Park. The event was organized by the London Economic Development Corp. and TechAlliance. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Business the focus of minister's visit

Local jobs. Federal minister stops by Forest City to talk about Economic Action Plan 2012



ANGELA MULLINS
angela.mullins@metronews.ca

Promising a stronger future for Canadian businesses and entrepreneurs, federal Minister of State for Science and Technology Gary Goodyear was in London on

Wednesday to tout the government's new economy-boosting plan.

The country is emerging from an economic downturn, but "the fact remains that far too many people are looking for work," Goodyear told business leaders gathered at Western University's Research Park.

"The global economy is fragile," he said. "What concerns us is that any potential setback out there would, as it has in the past, have a negative impact on Canada."

That in mind, the Con-

servatives' economic-action plan — tabled last week — includes a variety of initiatives aimed at helping companies grow, creating jobs and placing more emphasis on putting business-driven research into the marketplace, Goodyear said.

Key to the government's strategy is a \$500-million commitment to venture capital funds aimed at leveraging increased private-sector investment.

That component could prove critical for many London companies focused on leaping to the next

level, said Marilyn Sinclair, president and CEO of the TechAlliance.

The alliance — which along with the London Economic Development Corp. sponsored Wednesday's event — helps entrepreneurs launch and expand ventures in the technology sector.

"Access to risk capital has been a huge barrier for our high-growth companies for quite some time," Sinclair said.

"Just that one (part of the government's plan) ... is big."

Road construction. Dundas 'shave and pave' starts April 16

A city road project is about to barrel its way through the heart of downtown.

Crews are expected to start a Dundas Street "shave and pave" April 16 — \$312,000 worth of work scheduled to continue through June 7.

Construction will start at the Kensington Bridge and inch its way east to Wellington Street. The work will be done in stages, meaning various sections of Dundas Street will be closed to vehicles throughout the project.

Detours for buses and drivers will be posted, with surrounding streets bearing extra loads, city officials said. Portions of one-way streets — like King and Queen — will be altered to carry traffic

in both directions.

City council approved the project in the 2012 budget.

A final vote — part of authorizing nearly \$8 million of construction on main thoroughfares — is expected Tuesday.

On Dundas, the top layer of road will be removed and replaced with fresh asphalt, working hand-in-hand with an overall spruce-up planned for the 2013 World Figure Skating Championships at the John Labatt Centre.

"It does provide very nice visual or aesthetic (improvements)," city engineer John Braam said.

Getting rid of cracks in the road's surface also keeps water from seeping through to the base, meaning a full

Impact

Construction on main city roads is expected to cost about \$7.9 million. It includes the following:

- Byron Baseline Road: Griffith to Grandview, Clarke Road: Gore to Pension, Dundas Street: Kensington Bridge repairs plus road work to Wellington, Oxford Street East: Around Highbury intersection, Southdale Road East: Willow to Pond Mills

reconstruction of the street won't need to be done for about five years, Braam said.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

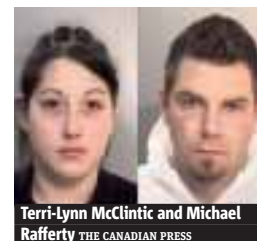
Rafferty trial. Police went 'around the moon' in search for missing girl

It was possibly the most exhaustive missing-person search in Canadian history, but only a bit of luck and a hunch finally led police to where Victoria Stafford — snatched outside her elementary school one spring afternoon — had been buried, court heard Wednesday.

The odds of a happy ending were clearly not in their favour.

In abduction cases such as this one, a police officer testified, statistics show only two per cent of victims are found alive.

Nonetheless, officers went to remarkable lengths to find eight-year-old Tori, logging more than 18,000 kilometres



Terri-Lynn McClintic and Michael Rafferty THE CANADIAN PRESS

in their search for clues and the girl herself.

"Literally, we went 1 1/2 times around the moon," Sgt. John Stirling, co-ordinator for the Ontario Provincial Police's search-and-rescue operations, testified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bike sales 'unbelievable' as gas prices continue to rise

Pain at the pumps.

Several gas stations in the city posted prices of 137.7 cents per litre Wednesday morning



JOHN MATISZ
john.matisz@metronews.ca

Along with firing up the barbecue for the first time, tossing the Frisbee around and hearing the odd bird chirp, rising gas prices seem to be an annual sign that spring has indeed arrived in Ontario.

Forecasters estimate \$1.40 will likely be the standard come the end of April.

Many Londoners are already strapped financially, forcing them to seek alternative modes of transportation.

"You definitely get that customer who comes in and says, 'I'm tired of paying a \$1.30 a litre — what do you have to commute with?'" Reynold Cycle store manager Jay Doyle said.

With warmer than usual temperatures beating down on the Forest City in late March and early April, the folks at Reynold Cycle have

had their fair share of new customers walk through their doors.

"The shop is just booming," Doyle added. "Sales are way up."

Three particular styles of bikes have been in demand so far this spring at Reynold Cycle — commuter, leisure, and hybrid — all of which, Doyle said, are synonymous with people looking to combat rising gas prices.

Down at 92 Wellington St., Matt and Gina Long describe sales numbers at their franchise of E-Ride as "unbelievable."

"People have had enough," Matt said, adding most of the electronic bicycles and scooters the store sells require an investment of just eight cents for every 50 kilometres.

What is drawing new customers to E-Ride, he continued, is a combination of expenses thrust upon car drivers, such as having to pay for not only gas but parking and licences as well.

Like Reynold Cycle, the pre-summer rush has already begun for the Long couple. Their current sales are comparable to that of their busiest time of year in 2011, which was July and August.



Marc Laporte, 38, of London, breezes through Ivey Park at 331 Thames St. Wednesday afternoon after a day's work. JOHN MATISZ/METRO

Gambrinus out and UpFront in downtown London



Gambrinus Bistro and Café at 130 King St. will open for the last time April 14. A Strathroy chef and businessman plans to open UpFront at the Market there in early May. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

UpFront at the Market hasn't opened its doors yet, but chef and owner Josh Stall is pretty certain he's already got a Forest City following.

"Our customers are coming from London and Sarnia," he said about his restaurant in Strathroy.

So, picking up and moving west seems like a logical choice for the self-professed foodie who gets a "rush" from being in the kitchen. Not to mention that relocating to downtown London will fulfill one of his dreams.

"For two and a half years, (I've been looking) for a spot

on the stretch," he said about streets surrounding the John Labatt Centre.

Stall thinks he's found that spot where Gambrinus Bistro and Café (130 King St.) sits today. The restaurant will close after April 14, and Stall is planning UpFront's soft opening in early May.

He describes the new eatery as casual, fine dining with entrees ranging from about \$15 to just shy of \$30. The menu will be similar to the one he offers at UpFront Café in Strathroy — a mixed bag ranging from steak to curries.

Weekends will bring spe-

About the beer

Gambrinus has become known in some crowds for offering a fine and wide selection of beers. UpFront at the Market will maintain all the existing taps and offer plenty of bottled brews, chef and owner Josh Stall said.

cial tasting menus, something Stall said have become a trademark of his existing restaurant. The menus — which have a different theme

each time around — range from three to five courses for about \$40 a person.

The tastings give Stall, 41, and his team a chance to "flex their culinary muscle" while keeping things "interesting and fun for the diner."

Stall will close his Strathroy restaurant, which opened seven years ago, but plans to continue living in the city for at least a little while.

"Customers telling me that they enjoy something keeps me going from dish to dish," he said. "Cooking ... is my passion."

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Community

Friday fun run is a real challenge

The London Abused Women's Centre will host its third annual CEO/Community Leader Challenge on Friday at Victoria Park. The event, part of the Runners Choice 5K Run & 2.5K Fun Run/Walk & Kiddie Trot, begins at 9:45 a.m. Visit runnerschoice.on.ca to register. **METRO**

Junior hockey

Pair of Knights recognized by OHL

The Ontario Hockey League announced Wednesday that London Knights goaltender Michael Houser has been named the OHL goaltender of the month for March. In 11 games, Houser posted a 1.55 goals-against average and .948 save percentage.

The league also released the rookie of the year final-



Michael Houser METRO FILE

ists, a list that includes Knights forward Max Domi. In 62 regular season games, Domi recorded 21 goals and 28 assists. **METRO**

Habitat for Humanity

Pennies toward a new home

Habitat for Humanity London will collect 10 million pennies — or \$100,000 — to build a home for another low-income area family. The organization will be collecting pennies at its ReStores at 4-40 Pacific Court and 317 Adelaide St. South. **METRO**

Baseball

Get Rippers tix, get a free T-shirt

This month, if you stop by the London Rippers team store and buy any season-ticket package (six, 12, 24, or 48 games) you get a free Rippers T-shirt. The team store is at 151 Dundas St., Suite R108. The Rippers home opener in the Frontier League is May 25. **METRO**

Military cutbacks

Wolseley Barracks to close in 2013

Wolseley Barracks, a London landmark established in the 1880s, will close its doors for good in March 2013. Several dozen civilian workers are expected to lose their jobs, while most of the military members will likely be reassigned. **METRO**

McGuinty spurns NDP tax-the-rich idea

Provincial budget. NDP calls for people earning more than \$500K to pay more income tax

Premier Dalton McGuinty poured cold water Wednesday on the New Democrats' demand to increase income tax on the very wealthy, but he didn't rule out the idea completely.

The Liberals need at least two NDP votes to pass the budget — which the Conservatives have vowed to reject — or the minority government will be defeated, automatically triggering another election.

The New Democrats' first demand in exchange for supporting the Liberals is to make people earning more than \$500,000 pay a two percentage-point income-tax premium, something McGuinty is reluctant to do, given his pledge not to raise taxes to fight the deficit.

McGuinty told the legislature he doesn't want to respond to a series of "one-off" ideas from NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, and urged her to present all the party's demands at once.

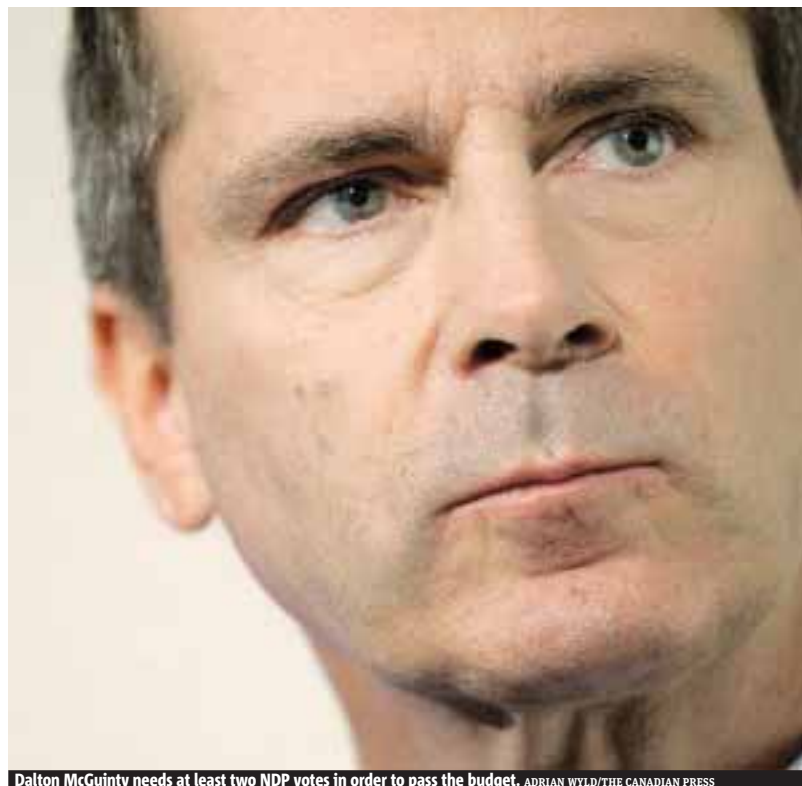
"I say to my honourable colleague that we welcome any proposal that she might put forward, but our preference — and I believe this is in the public interest — is that we receive that in its entirety, and that we not receive a series of demands," said McGuinty.

"We're very concerned about any new costs."

McGuinty cautioned Horwath not to present her ideas through the media if she wants a better working relationship with the Liberals.

However, Horwath said it was important to keep the public aware of the ideas her party presents to the Liberals as they negotiate possible amendments to the budget, and pressed McGuinty to proceed with the new tax bracket.

"The premier has made



Dalton McGuinty needs at least two NDP votes in order to pass the budget. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tough times

"People are saying that those who make a lot more can actually pay a little more, especially in tough times."

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath

some comments about wanting to avoid any new taxes," Horwath told the legislature.

"But more and more people are saying that those who make a lot more can actually pay a little more, especially in tough times."

Horwath noted U.S. President Barack Obama wants a new tax on the highest in-

How much tax do high-income earners pay?

- Workers earning more than \$78,000 a year pay an Ontario tax rate of 11.16 per cent.
- Higher income earners also face surtaxes — or taxes on taxes — of 20 per cent on the first \$5,400 of provincial income tax paid, and 56 per cent on any tax above that.
- The new, higher tax bracket would generate \$570 million a year for the cash-strapped government, which the NDP says would be enough to pay for lifting a budget freeze on disability support payments and remove the HST from home-heating bills.

come earners, and said uber-wealthy figures like Bill Gates and Warren Buffett agree they should be paying more in taxes, an argument McGuinty immediately shot down.

"We have a different taxation system here in Ontario and

Canada and I would argue it is much more fair, more progressive," he said.

"The income gap between our lowest earners and highest earners is not nearly as extreme as it is in the United States."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six more charged in Fleming Drive riot



London police have charged six more people in the ongoing Fleming Drive riot case.

That brings the total to 25 people charged with 56 offences as a result of the March 17 incident, which garnered international media attention.

Eleven of those charged are Fanshawe College stu-

dents.

The six who were charged Wednesday are:

- Craig Saunders, 21, of London
- Nick Zelinski, 18, of London
- Ryan Stanhope, 20, of Chatham
- Courtney Willett-Aho, 20, of London
- Jordan Lawlor, 18, of London
- Jason McCoy, 25, of London

All face unlawful assembly and mischief charges.

Have something to share?

People with information are encouraged to contact police at tips@police.london.ca or 519-660-5842.

Lawlor and McCoy are also charged with arson.

Five males have been charged for destroying a

CTV2 News vehicle: McCoy, Stanhope, Saunders as well as the previously charged Nathaniel Green and Robert McCarron.

Photographs of people who have not been identified are now available to the public.

Visit the London Police Service website at police.london.ca under Fleming Drive Disturbance Most Wanted.

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Job loss. Defence funding takes a hit in the budget

The axe is beginning to fall on jobs across the public service, with the Defence Department among the first to report losses.

The losses will be felt across the country, from military bases to reserve sites.

Union president John MacLennan says everything from research and development to food services is on the chopping block.

But the government has also committed to keeping the regular and reserve fighting force intact.

"If the government is not going to cut the size of the military or close any bases, who is going to do all the work?" MacLennan asked.

He said the answer is soldiers. Around 19,200 civil servants will lose their jobs over the next three years as a result of the budget, but unions say the cuts to the public service actually go much deeper.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada says there are still 6,300 jobs that will be cut as a result of the 2007-2010 spending reviews.

Some workers could be reassigned to different posts, while others will be given the option of leaving early; about

Losses

The Defence Department took a big hit in last week's budget, told to cut \$1.1 billion over three years

- **Cuts.** The Union of National Defence Employees says roughly 1,100 civilian positions are being eliminated

- **Still reeling.** Public Service Alliance of Canada says 9,700 positions were lost as a result of a budget freeze in 2010

7,000 of the jobs cuts reported in the budget will be due to attrition, the government said.

But PSAC says that number is meaningless.

"How does a government know how many people are actually going to retire?" said Patty Ducharme, PSAC's national executive vice-president.

Ducharme said there is no uniform approach to communicating the cuts to employees, creating a great deal of anxiety.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rae calls for PM's resignation after stealth-fighter fiasco

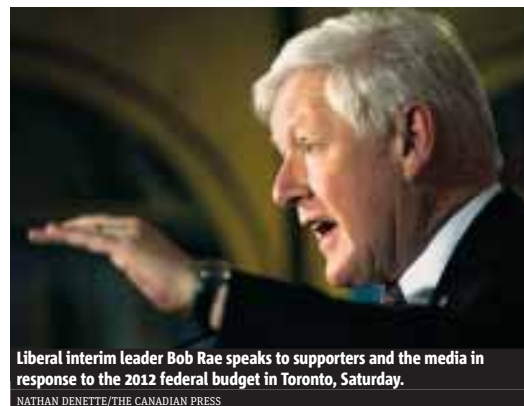
All-out attack. Interim Liberal leader slams Harper after scathing auditor general report concludes manipulation

Bob Rae is laying the blame for the stealth-fighter controversy squarely on Stephen Harper — and he's demanding the prime minister's resignation.

The interim Liberal leader says Harper "lied" to Canadians during last May's election about having contractual protection against skyrocketing costs for the F-35 jets.

And he says Harper deliberately misled Parliament as well.

Rae's all-out attack on Harper follows a scathing report by auditor general Michael Ferguson, who concluded that the National Defence Department manipulated the process, low-balled cost estimates and kept Parliament in the dark to ensure



Liberal interim leader Bob Rae speaks to supporters and the media in response to the 2012 federal budget in Toronto, Saturday.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

it got the fighter jets it wanted.

Rae says it's simply not credible for Harper, a reputed control freak who micromanages every aspect of his government, to claim he was unaware of the problems.

He notes that the Congressional Budget Office in the U.S. and Canada's parliament-

ary budget officer, Kevin Page, pegged the costs at billions more than the \$9 billion touted by the Harper government.

"He cannot now pretend that he was just the piano player in the brothel who didn't have a clue as to what was really going on upstairs."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec protest

Tuition hikes nearly cause riot

Montreal police arrested dozens of student protesters this morning after a group of demonstrators stormed the city's upscale Queen Elizabeth Hotel and a downtown shopping mall.

Police say they were called to the hotel after demonstrators started flipping tables and smashing dishes inside the building where John Lennon and Yoko Ono staged their famous bed-in for peace.

Quebec students have been holding regular demonstrations across the province for weeks to voice their opposition to the government's plan to hike tuition fees.

Montreal police dispersed today's crowd at the hotel — but they say some demonstrators headed straight for the nearby Centre Eaton shopping mall. Police say officers pursued the protesters through the mall where display cases were knocked over and items were broken. They say they eventually caught up to some of the demonstrators and made around 60 arrests. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Missing women inquiry head launches internal investigation



Commissioner Wally Oppal is silhouetted as he arrives for the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry public forum in Vancouver, B.C., on Wednesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The commissioner overseeing the public inquiry into the Robert Pickton case has launched a formal investigation into anonymous allegations of sexual harassment against his staff.

The allegations were contained in a story published Wednesday by the National Post, which reported that several former staff members told the newspaper they faced sexual and derogatory comments by commission staff.

None of the sources are named, and none make allegations against any specific staff member, but they did not allege Wally Oppal was personally responsible.

ally responsible.

Oppal said he first learned about the allegations last Friday, and he's since appointed lawyer Delayne Sartison to investigate the claims.

"As regrettable and as unfortunate as these allegations are, I can tell you that they would be dealt with," Oppal told reporters before hearings began Wednesday morning.

"We've appointed a lawyer who will have a free hand in conducting an independent investigation. She is from outside our inquiry, she's experienced and well known in her particular field."

Oppal did not take questions or say how long Sartison has to complete her investigation.

Oppal, a former judge and one-time attorney general, said his staff have been under considerable stress, but he's never heard of allegations of harassment.

"The commission of inquiry has been very difficult for everyone involved, it's difficult because of the nature of what we're investigating here — the worst serial killer in Canadian history," he said.

"That necessarily brings with it a lot of stress and a lot of

pressure, and all commissions of inquiry have those types of pressures."

Oppal released a more detailed written statement, in which he said there had been no formal complaints from any current or former staff members, and he said such behaviour wouldn't be tolerated if complaints were made.

The statement said staff have access to a psychologist if they have difficulty coping with the subject matter.

The inquiry has been overshadowed by controversy and complaints since its inception.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Miss Universe. Woman born a male may have started a trend: Trump

A Canadian woman barred from the Miss Universe Pageant because she was born a male has been given the thumbs-up to participate in the contest.

And there's a suggestion that her case might allow others like her to take part in future.

Donald Trump, who runs the Miss Universe Organization, has confirmed that Jenna Talackova can compete to represent her country in the pageant and he wished her luck in her quest for the crown.

Talackova, from Vancouver, had said she was devastated when she was originally told she'd be excluded for not being a "natural born woman."

Trump told ABC's Good Morning America Wednesday that Talackova's case may open up the contest to other transgendered hopefuls.

"Probably, we'll have to open it up from that standpoint," he said.

Trump added that his pageant had followed the appropriate Canadian and U.S. laws in deciding the matter.



Jenna Talackova's passport, birth certificate and drivers licence say she's a woman, her lawyer says. REED SAXON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The laws are very clear. So, based on that about two days ago, we decided to let her compete and we hope she does well," he said.

Talackova had gender-reassignment surgery when she was 19.

She says she knew as young as four that she was a female.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Global warming. Spikes in CO₂ to blame: Study

The dramatic temperature increases that thawed the last ice age followed spikes in carbon dioxide levels in the air, a new study finds.

Researchers say that further strengthens the scientific case explaining current man-made global warming.

In the new study, scientists show the atmospheric concentration of that heat-trapping greenhouse gas jumped more than 40 per cent.

Then global temperatures went up about 6 F (3.5 C).

A study published Wednesday in the journal Nature estimated global temperatures using ice and mud samples from dozens of places around the world and found that

The evidence?

6,000

Carbon dioxide levels have jumped roughly the same amount in the last century as they did over 6,000 years to get out of the ice age, said study lead author Jeremy Shankun.

globally, temperatures clearly went up only after carbon dioxide jumped.

"This, to me, seems like pretty powerful proof ... of the connection between greenhouse gases and global warming," said study lead author Jeremy Shankun of Harvard University.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring storms

Ship hits rocks as Britain shivers

Seven crew members were rescued from a cargo ship that ran aground during gales near Colwyn Bay, north Wales.

Meanwhile, thousands of people were without electricity Wednesday as snow and heavy winds lashed many parts of Britain. Twenty centimetres of snow fell in the north.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring storms

Typhoon-like winds kill four

A powerful storm with typhoon-strength winds and heavy rain halted planes and trains in Tokyo and killed four people around the country.

Winds of more than 144 kilometres an hour were recorded as the storm swept across Japan's main island of Honshu.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Welcome to the island of goddesses

An artist performs during the unveiling of Cirque du Soleil's new show, Amaluna, in Montreal on Wednesday. Amaluna invites the audience to a mysterious island governed by goddesses and guided by the cycles of the moon. And, oh yes, there's a poignant love story involved. The show opens in Montreal on April 19 and travels later to Quebec City, Toronto and Vancouver. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tornadoes cut swath of fear deep in the heart of Texas



A tornado's legacy: Overturned cars litter streets in Lancaster, Texas, on Wednesday. ROBERT RAY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A dozen twisters. 650 homes damaged, 500 flights grounded in a shocking start to the storm season

About 500 flights were grounded Wednesday at one of the busiest U.S. airports after as many as a dozen tornadoes tore through north-east Texas.

Thousands were left without power and hundreds of homes were pummelled.

The Red Cross estimated that 650 homes were damaged.

Hundreds of flights into and out of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Dallas Love Field were cancelled or diverted to other destinations.

Ten people in Lancaster

were injured, two of them severely, said Lancaster police officer Paul Beck.

Three people were injured in Arlington, said assistant fire chief Jim Self.

In one industrial section of Dallas, rows of empty tractor-trailers crumpled like soda cans littered a parking lot.

In Lancaster, television helicopters panned over exposed homes without roofs and flattened buildings.

Utility Oncor said nearly 14,000 homes and businesses, mainly in the Arlington area, still had no electricity early Wednesday.

In Arlington, a tornado hurtled toward a nursing home.

Physical therapist Patti Gilroy said she saw the swirling mass barreling down through the back door, after herding patients into the hallway in the order trained: walkers, wheelchairs, then beds.

"It wasn't like a freight train like everybody says it is," said Gilroy, who rounded up dozens to safety at Green Oaks Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

"It sounded like a bomb hit," Gilroy added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nursing home hell

"We hit the floor. Everybody was praying. It was shocking."

Patti Gilroy
A physical therapist who herded her patients to safety at an Arlington nursing centre.



This artist concept provided by the shows a new species of tyrannosaur, *Y. huali*, discovered in China. A new study published in the journal *Nature* found that *Y. huali*, an earlier relative of *T. rex*, had a feathery coat. ASSOCIATED PRESS/BEIJING INSTITUTE OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY AND PALEOANTHROPOLOGY, BRIAN CHOO

T. rex may have sported 'fluffy down'

A softer side? A discovery by scientists uncovers feathery ancestor to *T. rex*

The discovery of a giant meat-eating dinosaur sporting a downy coat has some scientists reimagining the look of *Tyrannosaurus rex*.

With a killer jaw and sharp claws, *T. rex* has long been depicted in movies and popular culture as having scaly skin. But the discovery of an earlier relative suggests the king of dinosaurs may have had a softer side.

The evidence comes from the unearthing of a new tyrannosaur species in north-eastern China that lived 60 million years before *T. rex*.

The fossil record preserved remains of fluffy down, making it the largest feathered dinosaur ever found.

If a *T. rex* relative had feathers, why not *T. rex*? Scientists said the evidence is trending in that direction.

"People need to start changing their image of *T. rex*," said Luis Chiappe, director of the Dinosaur Institute at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

Much smaller dinosaurs with primitive feathers have been excavated in recent years, but this is the first direct sign of a huge, shaggy dinosaur. Scientists have long debated whether gigantic dinosaurs lost their feathers the bigger they got or were just not as extensively cov-

Misrepresented

"People need to start changing their image of *T. rex*"

Luis Chiappe, director of the Dinosaur Institute at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

ered.

The new tyrannosaur species, *Yutyrannus huali*, is described in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*. Its name is a blend of Latin and Mandarin, which translates to "beautiful feathered tyrant."

A team of Chinese and Canadian scientists analyzed three well-preserved fossil skeletons — an adult and two juveniles — recovered from a quarry in China's Liaoning province by a private fossil dealer. Most strik-

ing were remains of down-like feathers on the neck and arm. Though coverage was patchy, scientists suspected the species had feathers over much of its body.

It would have felt like touching "long, thick fur," co-author Corwin Sullivan of the Chinese Academy of Sciences said in an email. Another scientist, Thomas Holtz Jr. at the University of Maryland, compared it to the feathers of an emu.

The creature lived about 125 million years ago. At 30 feet (10 metres) long and weighing a ton, *Y. huali* would have reached *T. rex*'s chest.

Instead, the dino-fuzz likely provided insulation, though camouflage or showing it off like a peacock could not be ruled out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exhibit

Trinkets on display

University of Alberta human ecology students are trekking out an exhibit this weekend showcasing just what tacky and treasured travel finds make the trip home from vacation. Professor Megan Strickfaden, who led the project through her Material Culture in the Home and Community class, said things people stow in suitcases vary from hand-crafted fare to symbolic reminders.

"It might not even be made in the country, like an Eiffel Tower that's actually made in China," she said.

SHELLEY WILLIAMSON/
METRO IN EDMONTON

Spiderman. Stuntman considering suing

A stuntman who claims he suffered a concussion, whiplash and two holes in his knees while performing in Broadway's "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" has asked producers to turn over any relevant information as he weighs pursuing a negligence lawsuit.

The stuntman, Richard Kobak, claims in a series of papers filed earlier this year in state Supreme Court that he suffered the leg injuries in 2010 while filling in for another injured stuntman at the most expensive show in Broadway history.

He alleges that the rigging he used for the show's aerial acrobatics wasn't recalibrated for him and, as

a result, he made 70 hard landings on stage during performances and rehearsals. He says the hard landings created a 1.4-millimeter hole in his right knee and a 9-millimeter hole in his left knee.

He also alleges that a computer program controlling one of his jumps from a balcony sent him flying into a wall. He says he suffered two herniated discs, whiplash and a concussion.

A spokesman for the producers did not have an immediate comment Wednesday.

During the production's rocky start, several accidents marred performances.

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Finance fracas

Carney dismisses bankers' concern

Mark Carney is firing back at Canadian bankers for requesting a pause on global financial reforms aimed at averting a repeat of the 2008 global crisis.

The Bank of Canada governor said in an interview with The Canadian Press that reforms should continue until the structural changes needed to eliminate irresponsible risk-taking are completed.

And he dismissed concerns voiced by Canadians Bankers Association head Terry Campbell who cited "unintended consequences" Tuesday when he said no one knows what impact the comprehensive reforms would have on the system.

Carney, who has fought resistance to reforms from the U.S. banking community, appeared to have no patience with even mild concerns from Canada's banking sector.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
100.36¢ US (-0.61¢)

TSX
12,178.66 (-144.95)

OIL
\$101.47 US (-\$2.54)

GOLD
\$1,614.10 US (-\$57.90)

Natural gas: \$2.141 (-4.6¢)
Dow Jones: 13,074.75 (-124.8)



Banking on big bonuses

National Bank CEO and president Louis Vachon attends the company's annual general meeting in Montreal on Wednesday. An activist group is calling on the bank to change the way it pays its top executives, saying the \$8.4 million in salary and bonuses paid to Vachon last year was "exorbitant." GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CBC slashes jobs in wake of budget

Public broadcaster. Facing a \$200-million shortfall, CBC announces major layoffs and potential advertising on radio

Fans of the CBC can expect fewer new shows on television and more ads on radio as the public broadcaster cuts hundreds of jobs in the wake of the federal budget.

News and entertainment will be hit but marquee TV and radio programs, as well as hockey broadcasts, will be protected, CBC officials said Wednesday.

The changes followed the

decision by the Conservatives to axe 10 per cent of the broadcaster's budget as part of a government-wide cost-cutting effort.

Government funding makes up about 64 per cent of CBC's budget and the corporation receives about \$1.15 billion a year from taxpayers.

While the Tories have had a bull's-eye on the corporation for years, CBC President Hubert Lacroix wouldn't say whether he viewed the cuts as political payback.

The public broadcaster expects to lay off more than 650 people over the next three years, with the majority let go this year.

Lacroix says the financial pressure doesn't just come

from the federal government cuts. In reality, the CBC faces a \$200-million shortfall, as well as \$25 million in severance costs for the layoffs.

About \$50 million will be made up in new revenue and the CBC has applied for permission to run ads on CBC Radio 2 and Espace musique.

But to cut costs, the CBC is making major changes across the country.

They'll sell buildings, close music libraries, move broadcasts of Radio Canada International entirely to the Internet and cut back on news, music and sports programming.

The savings will be spread between both English and French services.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Online. Yahoo announces layoffs in bid to turn company around

In his first three months on the job, Yahoo CEO Scott Thompson has imposed the largest layoffs in the company's 17-year history, reshaped the board of directors, picked a potentially disruptive fight with a major shareholder and sued Facebook for patent infringement.

He says there's even more upheaval to come.

Thompson delivered a painful jolt Wednesday with a payroll purge of about 2,000 workers, or about 14 per cent of Yahoo's 14,100 employees. The cuts will save about \$375 million annually as Yahoo tries to boost its earnings and long-slumping stock price.

More shakeups loom as Thompson reshuffles divisions and considers selling

Payroll purge

2,000

Yahoo announced Wednesday that it would be cutting 2,000 workers, or about 14 per cent of its workforce, the largest layoffs in the company's 17-year history

an online ad-placement service and other operations that don't fit into his strategy.

Once an Internet trendsetter, Yahoo has been outmanoeuvred and outsmarted by Google and Facebook in the race for online advertising. While still popular, its website has lost ground in the crowded online field.

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HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

A new Canadian study is out that shows unhealthy eaters, drinkers, smokers and layabouts die sooner, proving for the first time in a major research paper that major

research papers are useless.

My first reaction is to ask what's new here. It seems like scientists got a research grant, slacked off for a few months with Doritos and Xbox, then realized their deadline had arrived and slapped something together about unhealthy living, their orange fingertips staining the keyboard.

But that's not the main reason health studies like this are useless. No, the big reason is that clearly nobody listens to them.

The study says 60 per cent of all people die because of problems stemming from drinking, smoking and other preventable health issues. Other Canadian deaths are caused by:

- 15 per cent: Run over by a bus while playing Angry Birds.
- 15 per cent: Death by overexposure because 5 C weather in March led them to wear a T-shirt and shorts.
- 10 per cent: Rightly beaten to death for shouting, "Whooh! Party!" on the sidewalk at 4 a.m.

So, any way you look at it, we kind of get what's coming to us. Widespread unhealthiness is why study after study comes out saying the same thing. Because though research papers may be stupid and repetitive, nothing is more stupid and repetitive than the average person.

My solution? So glad you asked. Let's admit our approach is wrong and reverse course. Completely. Let's embrace Death.

I have a cigarette-smoking friend of mine who suggests, tobacco firmly in cheek, that the government should be happy she smokes since people usually die of lung cancer so quickly.

I say she's on to something. If we're all going to be hedonistic dopes — and we are — then let's embrace our early deaths and save on health care. Given government budget problems, I'm sure politicians would be happy if we went so all-in that we moved straight past health-care spending and directly into boost-ing the funeral industry.

I like to imagine Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty getting frustrated as he watches those "Make Death Wait" Heart and Stroke commercials where "Death" blathers on about all the nearby people he's going to kill eventually.

"What are you, a Bond villain?" Dalton yells at the screen. "Shut up and finish the job!"

With my pragmatic approach, we can expect new provincial slogans like: "New Brunswick — The Pitcher Province"; "Yukon — Home of both types of Klondike Bar"; and "Ontario — Smoke 'em if you got 'em."

And we can save researchers and health organizations from the pain of being ignored when they could be trying Blazin' Jalapeno Doritos and learning a new move on NHL '12.

Let's not make Death wait, people. He's a busy man.



It's time to turn the tables, or strollers, and embrace our sluggish ways.

BORIS SPREMO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The newly waxed



JONATHAN HORDLE / REX FEATURES

Immortalized

Royals get (wax) seal of approval

MARYLEBONE, LONDON. The moment Prince William and Kate Middleton announced their engagement has been immortalized ... in wax. Madame Tussauds has unveiled waxwork figures of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, adorned in replicas of the outfits they wore at the announcement in November 2010. **METRO**

Frenzy

"Visitors have been demanding this for ages, we do marketing work and the Duke and Duchess were right at the top of what people wanted to see."

Sculptor Stephen Mansfield



Will and Kate after announcing their engagement. GETTY IMAGES

Priceless

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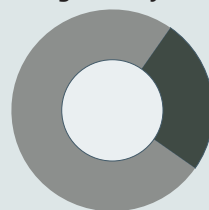
pounds (about \$240,000) is how much it cost to create each figure. A team of sculptors and hair and colour artists took four months to complete the waxworks.



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Is the federal budget really 'modest'?

75%
YES, IT'LL ONLY LEAVE A BRUISE



25%
NO, THE DEEP CUTS HIT IMPORTANT AREAS

Twitter

@aroundforacure: Sunny day in #ldnont - anyone hitting the golf course?

@malloryteal: Industry Appreciation Event today! #Fanshawe

@dmrodrigues89: When I think about the last four years, I reflect on the countless bottles of wine I needed to get me through it all #WesternU

@JuliaPhillips91: I don't always get an e-mail after 12:30am, but when I do, it's from CanIt Anti-Spam. #westernu #UWO

@heathbarker: Actually so sad today is my last pop culture class ... #uwo #westernu @UWOproblems #englishnerd

@JimReyno: Thanks Leslie Bowman for the new monitor stand! #ldnont



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Richard Crouse got a lot of flack for loving *Wanderlust* — but he's putting it out there again. Go see it if you haven't yet. HANDOUT

See them before they're gone

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN



Long weekend. Ditch the egg hunts and spring cleaning and check out these films you may have missed over the last little while

Richard: Mark, my four-star review of the movie *Wanderlust* got me the most hate mail I've received since my pan of *The Passion of the Christ*. I should note that for every hateful, name-calling email I received, I also got one thanking me for recommending the film, but WOW did the people who hated the movie ever take it out on me. Having said that, I'm going to invite more invective and recommend it again. Go see it before it leaves the theatres forever. It's a funny, if

quite raunchy, movie. **Mark:** I don't know why *Wanderlust* was so pilloried by the critics and so ignored by the audience. Fear of the '60s, perhaps. But like you, I loved it. Let me put in a few kind words about *Salmon Fishing In Yemen*. The title might be off-putting but it's a gentle satire and romance with great performances by Ewan Macgregor and Kristin Scott-Thomas. The visuals are crisp as is the dialogue. You could take your granny to this one but it still has a bit of an edge.

RC: You failed to mention the charming Emily Blunt, who to me, was the reason to see *Salmon Fishing*. On the other end of the scale is *Goon*, a Canadian hockey movie that rivals *Slap Shot* for profanity and sheer bravado. It's a mix of romance and hockey,

Synopsis

- Long weekends are the perfect time to catch up on all those movies you've been meaning to see but haven't. In this special long weekend column, the Reel Guys suggest some of the best movies to check out this weekend before they leave theatres.

but let's be real here; the only love story anyone cared about in this movie was the love of the game.

MB: Didn't see it because I'm not a hockey fan and after *Breakaway* and *Score* I wasn't optimistic. I am a Woody Harrelson fan, though, and *Rampart* is still playing in theatres. More of a character study than a story, Woody plays the ul-

timate bad cop as we see his world fall to pieces. Dark, rough, and thoroughly enjoyable.

RC: Wow, your picks are way more heavy-duty than mine. I guess we know who the serious Reel Guy is. My last long weekend pick is *Chronicle*. It's sci fi, which I usually don't care much for, and it is one of those "found footage" films, which I really don't usually care for, but the story of three friends who gain superpowers is original, funny and smart.

MB: I really enjoyed *Chronicle*. A wonderful combination of glorious sci-fi set in the world of totally believable and realistic teens. So I'm in total agreement with you on that one. Of course it's no John Carter. But what is?

2

SCENE

Scene in brief

Canada helps create RoboCop statue

Plans are moving forward for a Detroit statue of the fictional crime-fighting cyborg RoboCop. The Detroit News reports Wednesday that a RoboCop model is being scanned at a studio in Canada. When the scanning process is completed, artists will create foam pieces that will be shipped to Detroit's Venus Bronze Works, where the parts of the statue will be cast. Jerry Paffendorf, who is involved in the effort, says the statue "will have a physical, as well as conceptual, origin in Detroit." Location and a completion date are uncertain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web



Sensors in Thailand ban film based on Shakespeare's Macbeth as too divisive

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Comedy



American Reunion

Directors. Jon Hurwitz, Jason Schlossberg

Stars. Jason Biggs, Alyson Hannigan, Seann William Scott, Eugene Levy

American Reunion has everything you'd expect from an American Pie flick: sex, nudity and the awkward conversations with Jim's dad (Levy). This latest 'slice' of Pie centres around the all-important 13th high-school reunion. The gang is back and ready to party like it's 1999. The nostalgic will enjoy American Reunion — the film exploits every remotely amusing joke from the original.

REGAN REID

Thriller pays homage to the horror genre

Cabin in the Woods. Director Drew Goddard talks of his love for the masterminds of fright — and things that go bump in the night

STEVE GOW

scene@metronews.ca

You think you know the story. As the tagline for the new thriller *Cabin in the Woods*, it's a pretty accurate tease. It's also about all that can be said without giving away the film's bizarre plot.

"Here's the most insane version of a horror movie we could possibly come up with so that we could show everyone we love this genre," said filmmaker Drew Goddard of the shocker that hits theatres April 13.

"This is not one of those this-is-so-horrific-it's-going-to-give-you-nightmares horror

movies. This is the one where you laugh as much as you scream."

Set up as a typical genre yarn, *Cabin* casts a group of college kids on a weekend getaway to a creepy wilderness cottage. However, once they get there and the zombies rise ... well, it grows even crazier. It's a film that's imbued with Sam Raimi and the spirit of *Evil Dead* — not shocking considering Goddard's idols.

"Certainly the big benchmarks for me were Sam Raimi and John Carpenter as directors — their films are very much in the DNA of *Cabin in the Woods*," said Goddard, who insists the thriller pays homage to all scary movies.

"I love the journey of the horror film. I love seeing where it's been and I love thinking about where it's going."

Goddard can thank the film's co-writer and television guru Joss Whedon (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Angel*) for his directorial debut. One of Whedon's former writers,



Cabin in the Woods opens next Friday. HANDOUT

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Gotye introduces us to more people he used to know on his new album



Gotye GETTY IMAGES

Man of the hour. Belgian-Australian singer talks about his eclectic musical style and what inspires him

HEIDI
PATALANO
scene@metronews.ca

Gotye isn't terribly worried about being upstaged by a viral YouTube cover of his international hit, *Somebody That I Used To Know*. Even though the video, in which five people pluck out his song on one shared guitar, was at one time more famous than his own.

"On some level it makes me feel like maybe the song doesn't really belong to me anymore," says the singer born Wouter De Backer.

"I've just written this song that has an energy all of its own and it's almost unconnected from me as an artist, producer or singer even, which is kind of cool. I think it's a really interesting energy to be related to."

Whether or not the song still "belongs" to Gotye (it's pronounced gaut-tee-yay, by the way), he has earned heaps of praise for his latest album, *Making Mirrors*, which features a diverse range of sounds

— everything from that acousticky folk of *Somebody* to feel-good pop to Motown to hints of dubstep.

It's all over the place, but the Belgian-Australian singer assures us that there is a method to his schizophrenic madness.

"I really like diverse records and I'm a big fan of bands like Ween who bring a lot of different strands together and just explode outwards in lots of different directions in one album, but I think there's a thread there that holds it together," De Backer says.

"I don't know if coming from Australia is part of it, but I think I sometimes just have a whimsical, idiosyncratic range of tastes in music and I try to find a way to make sense of them all and find a way to make them all live together.

Q & A with Gotye

- So who is that "somebody" that you used to know? "I've talked to a few different ex-girlfriends in the last year since the song came out, but it's not written about one particular relationship."
- That's what everyone says. "But it's true! I look at different lines in the lyrics and I can see specific moments or people in certain lines and then there are other lines in the lyrics that I kind of go, 'well, that's just fiction.'"

I may or may not have succeeded with that on some instances on the record."

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Mustang Drive-In - London 2551 Wilton Grove Rd.

American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sun 10:30 Tue 8:25 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 10:15 Tue 8:20 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 8:20 Tue 10:50 Safe House (14A) Fri-Sun 8:25 Tue 10:25 Silent House (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50 Wanderlust (14A) Fri-Sun 12:35

Hyland Cinema 240 Wharnccliffe Road South

In Darkness (14A) Fri-Sat 9:10 Sun 12:30 Mon 9:10 Tue 9:15 Wed 12:30 Thu 9:10 Monsieur Lazhar (PG) Fri-Sat 5:05 Sun-Mon 5:15 Tue 3:10 Wed-Thru 3 Salmon Fishing in the Yarn (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-7 Sun-Mon 3:05-7 Tue 1-7:05 Wed 3-9 Thu 12:50-4:50 We Need to Talk About Kevin (14A) Fri-Sat 3 Sun 9:10 Mon 1 Tue 5 Wed 5:10 Thu 7

Rainbow Cinemas London 355 Wellington St.

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Thru 1:05-3:35-7:20-9:40 American Reunion (14A) Fri-Thru 12:55-3:45-6:55-9:35 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thru 1:15-3:30-7:05 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Thru 1-1:30-4-4:30-7-7:45-9:45 John Carter (PG) Fri-Thru 9:15 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Thru 1:10-3:50-7:10-9:30 Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Thru 1:20-3:40-7:15-9:35 Western Film Room 340, UCC Building, Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Sun 2-4:30 Project X (18A) Fri-Thru 9:05 Shame (18A) Fri-Thru 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas 983 Wellington Rd. S.

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Mon 1:20-4:10-

7:10-9:50 Tue-Thru 7:10-9:50 American Reunion (14A) Fri-Mon 12:50-3:50-7-9:45 Tue-Thru 7-9:45 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Mon 1:30 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Mon 4-6:30 Tue-Thru 6:30 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Mon 12:35-1:10-3:40-4:20-6:50-8:15-9-10 Tue-Thru 6:50-8:15-9-10 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Mon 12:40-3:45-6:45-9:20 Tue-Thru 6:45-9:20 Titanic 3D (PG) Fri-Mon 12:30-4:30-8:30 Tue-Thru 7:20 Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Mon 1-3:30-6:40-9:30 Tue-Thru 6:40-9:30 Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP

Cinemas

755 Wonderland Road South

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 12:15-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Sat 5:30-8:10-10:50 Sun 12:15-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Mon 2:10-5-7:40-10:25 Tue 5-7:40-10:25 Wed-Thru 7:40-10:25 American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sun 12-2:35-5:15-8-10:45 Mon 12-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:30 Tue 5:10-7:50-10:30 Wed-Thru 7:50-10:30 Fri 1:15-4:15-7:30-10:15 Sat 1:15-3:55-7-9:50 Sun 1:15-4-7:30-10:15 Mon 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 Tue 4:15-7:15-10:15 Wed-Thru 7:15-10:15 Andrew Lloyd Webber's Love Never Dies (STC) Wed 7 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3-5:25-7:50 Mon 2-4:40-7:10 Tue 4:40-7:10 Wed-Thru 7:10 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-12:55-3:40-4:05-6:50-7:20-10-10:30 Mon 12:30-12:55-3:40-4-6:50-7:15-10-10:20 Tue 3:40-4-6:50-7:15-10-10:20 Wed 7:15-9:45-10:20 Thu 6:50-7:15-10-10:20 Fri 12:15-3:40-6:45-9:50 Sat 4:25-7:30-10:35 Sun 12:15-3:30-6:45-9:50 Mon 12:15-3:40-6:45-9:50 Tue 3:20-6:45-9:50 Wed-Thru 6:45-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 The Metropolitan Opera: Manon - Live (STC) Sat 12 Sat 12 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-2:30-5:05-7:40-10:20 Mon 1:40-4:30-7-9:40 Tue 4:30-7-9:40 Wed-Thru 7-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

Titanic 3D (PG) Fri-Mon 12:20-4:20-8:30 Tue 3:20-7:30 Wed-Thru 7:30 Fri-Mon 12:45-4:45-8:45 Tue 3:45-7:45 Wed-Thru 7:45 Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 10:10 Mon-Thru 9:30 Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:20-5:50-8:20-10:55 Mon 2:20-4:50-7:30-10:05 Tue 4:50-7:30-10:05 Wed-Thru 7:30-10:05

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21 Jump Street (14A) Fri 12:10-2:45-5:30-8:05-10:55 Sat 11:20-2:10-5:30-8:05-10:55 Sun 12:10-2:45-5:30-8:05-10:55 Mon-Thru 1:35-4:20-7:15-10:05 American Reunion (14A) Fri-Sun 10:20 Mon-Thru 9:55 Fri-Sun 11:55-2:35-5:15-8-10:50 Mon-Thru 1:25-4:15-7:25-10:20 An American Tail (G) Sat 11 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri 1:40-4 Sat 1:30-4 Sun-Thru 1:40-4 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri 1:10-3:30-5:45-8:10 Sat 11:10-1:10-3:30-5:45-8:10 Sun 1:10-3:30-5:45-8:10 Mon-Thru 12:40-3-5:15-7:40 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05-12:50-3:35-4:10-6:30-7-7:25-9:45-10:15-10:35 Mon-Thru 12:30-1-3:30-4-6:50-7:05-7:20-9:45-10:10-10:30 The Metropolitan Opera: Manon - Live (STC) Sat 12 Mirror Mirror (PG) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:50-7:40-10:30 Mon-Thru 2:20-4:50-7:35-10:25 Wed 4:50-7:35-10:25 Thu 2:20-4:50-7:35-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 The Raid: Redemption (18A) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:15-5:50-8:20-10:45 Mon-Thru 1:30-4:05-6:55-9:30 Safe House (14A) Fri 2:15-5-7:45-10:40 Sat 5-7:45-10:40 Sun 2:15-5-7:45-10:40 Mon-Thru 1:45-4:30-7:05-10 Wed 4:30-7:05-10 Thu 1:45-4:30-7:05-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1 Titanic 3D (PG) Fri-Thru 12:45-4:45-8:45 Wrath of the Titans (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:20-5:40-7:55-10:25 Mon-Thru 1:05-3:20-5:40-7:55-10:15 Wrath of the Titans: An IMAX 3D Experience (14A) Fri-Thru 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50

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Why women love Game of Thrones

Fantasy. It's bloody, violent and male-dominated. So why does this show have so many female fans?



MICHELLE CASTILLO
scene@metronews.ca

At first glance, the Seven Kingdoms of Westeros (and the Wildlings and Others that live past the northern border) are dominated by a male society. Daughters are wedded off for political advantage, and wives and betrothed who disobey their husbands are slapped across the face.

Despite what appears to be a misogynistic message, HBO's critically acclaimed series *Game of Thrones* has managed to appeal a large base of female fans. From bloggers analyzing women's hatred toward the more conniving female characters to women-run forums dedicated to what female characters they can't wait to see next,

Control

"(The women) have a lot of control over their actions, more than typical women in fantasy stories."

Diya Chaco
Fan of the series

the fairer sex is as enamored with the world that George R. R. Martin created as their male counterparts.

"I could see how men would be more attracted to it. It's a lot of sex and violence — and there's a lot of boobs," Rosanne Stern said. "(The episodes) were based off the time period they were written about. But, a lot of the girls

who have seen it — after they (got over that) there was a lot of sex and violence — we're drawn in as well."

Stern, a 26-year-old English student, faithfully watches the HBO series with her boyfriend. She had previously read the series before the show came out. Despite the

fact that she believes that it is "one of the most well-written series I've come across in a while," Stern rarely found other female fans that shared her passion for the series before the TV show came out. Now, she's noticing that men and women alike reading the books and catching up with



Maisie Williams plays Arya Stark, one of the show's strongest female characters. CONTRIBUTED



the A Song of Fire and Ice saga.

Part of what Stern feels draws women to the series is the strong female characters like Daenerys, the Dothraki princess from House Targaryen, and Brienne of Tarth, a warrior who will be featured on the second season of the show.

Diya Chaco, another female fan of the series, agrees. "You have these women set in this time where there are knights and yes they are princesses, but none of them act like a princess," she explained.

Chaco was first introduced to the series when her mother bought the first book, *A Song of Ice and Fire*, in an airport and gave it to her back in 1999. "It was way too early for me to read it," the 25-year-old editorial producer said, laughing.

When Chaco heard HBO was making a show, she immediately re-bought the books that she had lost during Hurricane Katrina and read them over again. She was drawn in by the fantasy series because it didn't conform to typical tropes.

"I know that there are graphic sex scenes in the book, and to see those graphic sex scenes on the screen is a bit shocking, but it's HBO," Chaco explained.

At the end, what draws most women to the show is the series' universal appeal of a nail-biting plot where no person is safe and strong characters, regardless of their gender.

Keeps trying

Why Finkleman likes playing George Findlay:

- "(He has an) ability to slide out of difficult situations he has created because of his own self-interest ... Ralph Kramden was the same thing on *The Honeymooners* ... we watch him reach for something he never can quite get."

Good God, Finkleman is bringing back George

There's a good reason why Ken Finkleman changed the title of his continuing television series from *Good Dog* to *Good God*.

"It's a different show completely," said the creator, writer and star of the new series that premieres April 9th on The Movie Network. Harkening back to his popular '90s hit *The Newsroom*, *Good God*

this time posits his perpetual character George Findlay as head of a right-wing TV news network — quite a switch from last year's self-reflective sitcom.

But once again, Finkleman gets to explore his interminable George character through another setting. Whether it's in *The Newsroom* or *Good God*, it's an

opportunity that keeps its creator evolving — even if the character doesn't.

"George learns nothing. So what's interesting about him I think is we watch his inability to learn," explained Finkleman — an anti-establishment writer if showbiz ever saw one. "There's no arc, it's a comedy — it's silly."

STEVE GOW/METRO



The setting may change, but Ken Finkleman's George Findlay never does. CONTRIBUTED

'I like this dusty underground kind of thing'

Hip-hop. Creative mastermind Thesis Sahib, a.k.a. James Kirkpatrick, takes the stage this Sunday at the Blackshire



BACKSTAGE PASS
Milla Petkovic
london@metronews.ca

Thesis Sahib a.k.a. James Kirkpatrick takes rapping to the next level. He makes his own instruments and modifies Game Boys and children's toys to create the beats he raps to.

Kirkpatrick has been a part of the underground hip-hop movement for the past 15 years. Recently returned from the South by Southwest (SXWS) festival in Texas, he is performing in his hometown London this Sunday at the Blackshire.

Although Kirkpatrick uses a different name for each of his music projects, on Sunday he is performing as Thesis Sahib.

"Both were graffiti names given to me by friends at different times in my life," says Kirkpatrick. "Names talk about who you are or what your stand point is."

He got the name Sahib, meaning apprentice in

Events

- This Thursday, UPwith-ART will showcase the work of 75 artists and will include an onstage audiovisual performance. Proceeds go to the Unity Project for Relief of Homelessness. The event takes place at the Palace Theatre from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. and tickets are \$25 at the door.

- Juno nominees The Deep Dark Woods are taking the stage at APK Live this Saturday. Tickets are \$10 in advance at Grooves Records.

Arabic, while discussing philosophy with friends when he was 17 years old. The name Thesis, coming from the idea of theory, came a few years later as he was spray-painting a wall.

The DIY nature of freestyle rapping appeals to Kirkpatrick.

"I really like it because you don't need all these instruments — just a beat and you rap over it," says Kirkpatrick. "Everything you could find in your garage would be part of hip-hop. I like this dusty underground kind of thing."

Kirkpatrick makes his own beats using modified Game Boys.

"I make a light on the screen because I program

little loops of synthesizer lines I've made, and I need to be able to see those to trigger them. I play different parts depending on how people are reacting to the sounds."

Kirkpatrick also uses a technique called circuit bending to make his own instruments and modify children's toys.

"I open up the toy and

see how the parts of the circuit are connected. Then I solder different bits together to make it permanent, so it will play with a different function."

The creative musician also programs a microphone and circuit bent sounds into his face mask costume.

In recent years, Kirkpatrick has combined his fine

art practices with his music. His latest release, *Before the End*, takes the shape of a little blue book. The book of artwork comes with a 16-song album on colour vinyl and a download card that can later be planted to grow wildflowers.

Though Kirkpatrick has gained international recognition and often travels to Los Angeles to record with

other artists, London is his home base and he plans to keep it that way.

"I like it here — the people, and my family lives nearby. There's a good art scene here too."

This Sunday, Kirkpatrick will perform alongside artists Teenburger and PHC. The show starts at 9 p.m. and tickets are \$7 at the door.



James Kirkpatrick plays one of his handcrafted instruments or sound sculptures. MILLA PETKOVIC/FOR METRO

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Bruno Mars

Bruno Mars denies report that he is gay

Reports of Bruno Mars' coming out of the closet as gay are apparently phony, his rep insists to Hollyscoop.

"Someone pulled a prank and the world has run with it," the singer's rep says. "The Internet is really powerful."

A viewer-submitted CNN story had reported that Mars had told a Chicago radio station that he's a homosexual.

"The timing is bad. I hadn't realized it was April Fool's Day, but it's been pointed out to me, and I don't want to go too public with this," Mars supposedly said. His rep insists the whole thing was "completely fabricated."

Twitter



@rickygervais

Saying "Atheism is a belief system", is like saying "not going skiing, is a hobby."



@GarryShandling

OK, so I misunderstood what planking was at first. Big deal.



@CraigyFerg

Ugh, I feel like Burt Reynolds - woke up covered in hair. My giant German Shepherd slept on top of my bed last night. So did my dog.

William and Kate not set to make big announcement

Despite near-constant rumors of a baby on the way, Prince William and Kate Middleton are definitely not making any big announcements soon, a source assures Us Weekly.

"Kate is not pregnant or about to make a pregnancy announcement," the source says.

There are plenty of other reasons for the royal couple to celebrate, though, as their first anniversary is coming up and William just completed a six-week deployment.



Kate Middleton and Prince William

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Chevy Chase

Chase could be cut out of Community

Chevy Chase's future on the sitcom Community may be in jeopardy after a feud with show creator Dan Harmon, who decided to unload about the dust-up at a recent comedy show he hosts.

As Harmon tells it, Chase stormed off set after a particularly difficult scene, eventually sending Harmon an apology via text message.

"I said f--- you. You breached your contract," Harmon says.

"And then what happened a day later? That night ... after what I'm guessing is two bottles of Busch Light?"

Harmon then played a voice mail message purportedly from Chase that included the veteran comic actor saying, "If you were here now, I'd f---ing kick your teeth out" and, "You're not funny. You're OK."

SNL stars look to leave show



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Andy's video shorts and Kristen saving every skit, they'll need help!"

A rep for both Wiig, 38, and Sudeikis, 36, deny the rumor, telling Us, "No decisions are made until the season is over."

But another pal says the timing is right.

"Kristen was talking about leaving a while ago. With her movie success, it's no surprise."

It's time, but it's too bad — they (and the occasional crazy guest host, a la Lindsay Lohan) made the show worth watching this season. Although now that we think about it, that's a pretty sad highlight reel.

Two sources have told Us Weekly that several of the best, more recognizable Saturday Night Live players are ready to move on.

"Kristen Wiig, Andy Samberg and Jason Sudeikis are all leaving after the end of the season," says one insider.

"It will be a huge blow to the show. Without

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Jenna opens the J.Crew door: 'We don't want to be exclusive'

Brand expand. The U.S. brand, with the massive cult following and Michelle Obama endorsement, finally pushes its unique take on high and low global

KENYA
HUNT

Metro World News in London

For years, J.Crew was that American company that produced the chic clothes that you coveted but frustratingly couldn't buy. Through Michelle Obama, the rest of the world was introduced to the brand's colourful, up-beat cardigans and pencil skirts, clothes that sit just slightly to the left of classic — meaning, trend-conscious enough without the risk of being out of style six months later. And then there's Jenna Lyons, the president and executive creative director of J.Crew, whose fashion celebrity seems to grow by the day. Her off-beat personal style and knack for seamlessly mixing high and low has become inextricably linked with the brand, not to mention a full-blown fashion blogger obsession.

We talk to Lyons about the company's recent decision to go global (they now ship to 107 countries) after only being available in the U.S. for nearly 30 years.

What makes now the right time to expand internationally?

We were finding that a lot of customers were calling our New York store and asking for things to be shipped overseas. But we had to get our ducks in a row first. We had the U.S. expansion that we were



President and executive creative director of J.Crew, Jenna Lyons.

working on and we were in the process of launching a few really big projects that we needed to have all hands on deck for first. We wanted to do it right.

How do you think J.Crew's American sensibility will translate to a global audience?

Some brands have a very specific look. But we expect you to put your own quirk on it. We're not trying to present

it as only one way of dressing or looking. I love it when we shoot (for our catalogs) in other places. It's great to see what our (staff) come back with. For example, someone will come back with this great Guatemalan piece worn with chinos and loafers. And I can't wait to see the same thing happen with our shoppers in Russia. Or to see what someone in China might do.

The brand is much more

popular with fashion insiders than it was years ago. For example, Manolo Blahnik collaborated with you on your a/w '12 show and you're now selling Comme des Garçons Play. What led to the change?

I think Mickey Drexler (chairman and CEO) has allowed us to step out of the box of what we've done before. We've really tried to develop a clear visual over the last



four or five years that's a tad bit more fashion. Working with the CFDA has also been a big help, getting more intimately acquainted with the designers and people like Diane von Furstenberg and Anna Wintour. People began to have a different trust level with us. People (in the fashion industry) began to view us as being on the inside rather than the outside.

How are you managing to please both your fans who love high fashion and the ones who love the affordable classics?

It's a challenge to mix aspiration with approachability. It's about striking that balance between high and low; it's a part of our DNA. We don't consider ourselves a luxury brand and we don't consider ourselves a high-street brand. We have a wide range of customers.

We're not positioning ourselves as a luxury brand, we're offering you a cohesive way to shop. We don't want to be exclusive, we want people to feel like they can have a piece of the brand. We want to show that you can make anything cool.

3

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On the Web



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Small space paint primer

Decor ideas. Painting a tiny abode? Here's a few tricks to make it feel larger



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

If you are thinking about freshening up your space this spring, there is no better return on your dollar and time then to paint it a new colour.

If you are in a small space then here are some designer secrets that will make it feel larger than it actually is.

Be consistent

To make the overall space feel as large as possible, paint it one colour.

That colour should be a good neutral that reflects your style in many rooms. Neutrals don't have to be boring; khaki green, blue greys, camel tans and putty creams are all updated neutrals that give personality to a space.

If you really want more than one colour, choose similar tonal values in the different colours. This will create an even flow of tones throughout the space, making it feel bigger.

Match your trims

If your five-inch baseboards and four-inch crown mouldings are painted the same colour as your walls, you will visually gain nine inches of height in the room.

This little trick will make your space feel taller and loftier.

Interior doors, radiators, mantels and stairs become less interruptive when painted the same colour as the rest of the space.

Paint trims with a sheen-finished paint for durability and to allow them to stand out.

Keep ceilings white

I have always subscribed to the classic decorator rule that ceilings should be painted a dull white.

Your ceiling is the largest, uninterrupted surface in a room. Keeping it bright helps natural light bounce into the room and makes ceilings appear taller.

A lot of new small places offer exceptionally high ceilings, which often gives the too-tall "cracker-jack box" effect to the room.

In that case paint the ceilings the same as the walls to help bring them down, which inevitably helps visually widen the room.



Keep small spaces neutral and add drama on focal points like a fireplace. BENJAMINMOORE.CA

Paint a punch

In order to add a little bit of jazz to a small space it's always nice to highlight a focal point with a splash of

paint.

An old mantel painted high-gloss navy blue, a multi-paned window painted black, a centrally-

located interior door painted citron green are all simple ways to add a punch of colour to your space without chopping it up.

Be careful with some colours

Painting an entire small space any of the three primary colours (apple red, sunflower yellow or cobalt blue) would be a big mistake.

- **Three primary colours.** These shades are the truest form of colour. But they can affect our visual and mental states if we are exposed to them for

too long a time.

- **Sunflower yellow.** The true form of yellow is a irritant to the eye (but it's great for powder rooms and hallways).

- **Cobalt blue.** This colour generally lacks personality (but use it to add a punch of colour inside a closet or to paint around

cabinetry in a kitchen).

- **Apple red.** This colour creates blood flow and energy (good only for dining rooms).

- **How to use these colours.** If you like yellow, red or blue, make sure they are a faded-down, murky version to help soften the intensity.

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Reach for the matzo meal this Passover for delicious and bites modern

Passover Sliders with Caramelized Onions.

Try these tasty bunless burgers for a twist on traditional ingredients

During Passover, much of the culinary focus is on the Seder, the celebratory meal that commemorates the Jewish liberation and exodus from Egypt.

But the special dietary restrictions that go with the holiday last at least a week, which can challenge even the most creative of cooks to come up with interesting meals.

During the week of Passover, Jews are supposed to adhere to dietary restrictions intended to remind them that their ancestors were in such a hurry to get out of Egypt that they didn't even wait for their bread to rise, instead taking matzos, the unleavened flatbreads that are still eaten today.

This is why many Jews avoid foods made with wheat, barley, rye, spelt or oats that have been mixed with water and allowed to stand in the open air for more than 18 minutes — the amount of time it takes for natural leavening to begin.

Which is to say, there's a lot of matzo sold during Passover.

For an easy meal during this holiday, try these Passover sliders. The bunless burgers are dipped in beaten eggs, coated with seasoned matzo meal and fried in olive oil, Passover margarine or, for the absolute best flavour, chicken or duck fat.

1. Caramelized onions: In saucepan heat oil over medium heat and cook onion and salt, stirring 15 minutes or until soft and golden. Remove from heat and set aside.

2. In bowl, mix ground beef and onion powder. Form beef mixture into 8 equal 5-x-2-cm (2-x-3/4-inch) patties. Transfer to

a plate and set aside.

3. In a wide, shallow bowl, mix together matzo meal, salt and pepper. Dip each beef patty into beaten eggs, turning to coat, then transfer to dish with matzo meal. Turn gently to coat evenly; return to plate.

4. In skillet, heat fat over medium-high heat and fry patties, turning once, 3 mins. per side or until desired doneness until crusty and golden brown. Serve topped with caramelized onions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA



This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 625 g (1 1/4 lb) lean ground beef
- 5 ml (1 tsp) onion powder
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) matzo meal
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) freshly ground black pepper
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) kosher chicken fat, duck fat or extra virgin olive oil

Caramelized Onions:

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) kosher salt

Cookbook of the Week

Fresh & Easy Kosher Cooking



From Leah Schapira, the founder of cookkosher.com, a rapidly growing online kosher recipe exchange, comes Fresh & Easy Kosher Cooking.

The book contains more than 170 easy-to-make recipes, full-colour photos, side dish pairing suggestions, tips for food preparation and storage as well as a comprehensive index.

Among the recipes are modern eats such as Crispy Oven-Baked Chicken and Deep-Dish Chocolate Chip Pies as well as traditional favourites like Egg and Liver Tower, Four-Section Challah Rolls and Parve Polish Cholent. **METRO**

Readers' note

Not all Passover traditions are the same, so the dishes on this page may not meet dietary requirements or restrictions.

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Ingredients

- 60 ml (4 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 each red onions, sliced; cloves garlic, chopped; sweet potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 500 g (1 lb) each carrots, cut into 2.5-cm (1-inch) pieces; beets, peeled and cut into wedges; celeriac, peeled and cubed
- 250 ml (1 cup) unsweetened applesauce
- 7 mL (1 1/2 tsp) finely grated lemon rind
- 10 mL (2 tsp) finely grated orange rind
- 30 mL (2 tbsp) each chopped fresh thyme and savoury
- 15 mL (1 tbsp) chopped fresh tarragon
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 5 matzos, crushed
- 2 mL (1/2 tsp) ground coriander

Passover-Inspired Root Veggie Casserole

1. Coat casserole dish with cooking spray.

2. In skillet heat 15 mL (1 tbsp) of oil over medium-high; add onions and garlic and sauté for 10 minutes or until soft. Scrape into large bowl.

3. Add sweet potatoes, carrots, beets, celeriac, applesauce, thyme, savoury, tarragon, lem-

on and orange rinds. Season with salt and pepper; toss to coat. Spoon into casserole dish.

4. In small bowl, combine crushed matzos with remaining 45 mL (3 tbsp) of olive oil and coriander. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle over vegetable mix. Bake in 190 C (375 F) 1 hr or until vegetables are tender when pierced with fork. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)**

4

SPORTS

NHL

Leafs lose another one to injury

Carl Gunnarsson won't suit up again for the Toronto Maple Leafs this season.

The Swedish defenceman suffered a separated shoulder in the opening moments of Tuesday's 6-5 overtime loss in Buffalo after taking a big hit from Sabres forward Marcus Foligno.

Gunnarsson left the game and did not return. The Maple Leafs host the Tampa Bay Lightning on Thursday before wrapping their season up Saturday night in Montreal against the Canadiens.

On the web



At least one former Habs great is out of the running for the Canadiens' vacant GM position. Vincent Damphousse withdrew from consideration on Wednesday. Scan the code to find out who else could be the new head of Montreal's front office.

The Blue Jays' season gets underway on Thursday and anticipation is as high as ever considering how bleak the pro-sports landscape is around these parts. Columnist Ethan Rotberg gives his reasons to get excited and will break down the Jays online at metronews.ca/voices.



ETHAN ROTBERG
ethan.rotberg@metronews.ca

1

The home run king

In their relatively short history, the Jays have never been capable of boasting the best hitter on the planet. But Jose Bautista, and his story of mid-dling utility infielder turned home run king, is still at the top. He had the most fan votes for last year's all-star game, his photo graces the cover of the video game MLB The Show, and his cardboard cut-out convinces us to take that quick detour to Booster Juice on the way home from work.

JONATHAN FERREY/GETTY IMAGES



5

Good reasons to cheer for the 2012 Jays

3

The Canadian saviour

One of the most talked about players this spring has been a 22-year-old Blue Jays third baseman. But Brett Lawrie isn't just

Canadian, he's also really, really good. Sportsnet broadcaster Buck Martinez told ESPN that Lawrie "has more ability

AMY SANCETTA/
THE ASSOCIATED
PRESS



than George Brett." FOX baseball writer Ken Rosenthal said in a radio interview that Lawrie is "the closest thing to Pete Rose in today's game." Lawrie plays baseball like he has Red Bull pumping through his veins. The heavily tattooed star is far from humble and if he played on any other team, we'd probably hate him.

4



DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Because management told us to

In the off-season, when GM Alex Anthopoulos was speaking about "payroll parameters" he mentioned that if attendance increased, payroll would too. This didn't help the narrative that Rogers, the owners with the deepest pockets in baseball, isn't spending enough on the Jays. But the Blue Jays are building something. Attendance was up by more than 300,000 from 2010, while TV numbers jumped 17 per cent. We'll tag along.

2

The only game in town

The Maple Leafs were mathematically eliminated from the playoffs last week, after being emotionally eliminated several weeks ago. The Raptors couldn't beat the Kentucky Wildcats — so says former NBA star Charles Barkley. Toronto FC has conceded seven goals in three Major League Soccer losses. For the first time in 20 years, the Blue Jays are unquestionably the top team in Toronto. The fans got a head start, cheering for the Blue Jays at recent Leafs game — to the embarrassment of MLSE.

VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cheering for laundry

The Blue Jays have gone through a rebrand that coincided with elevated talent and expectations for 2012. The new logo looks sharp, and we don't mind sharing our fantasies of those deep blue uniforms glistening in the Saturday afternoon sun. With the Jays shop working round the clock to outfit every fan, the Rogers Centre might finally become a more engrossing place to cheer on the boys of summer.

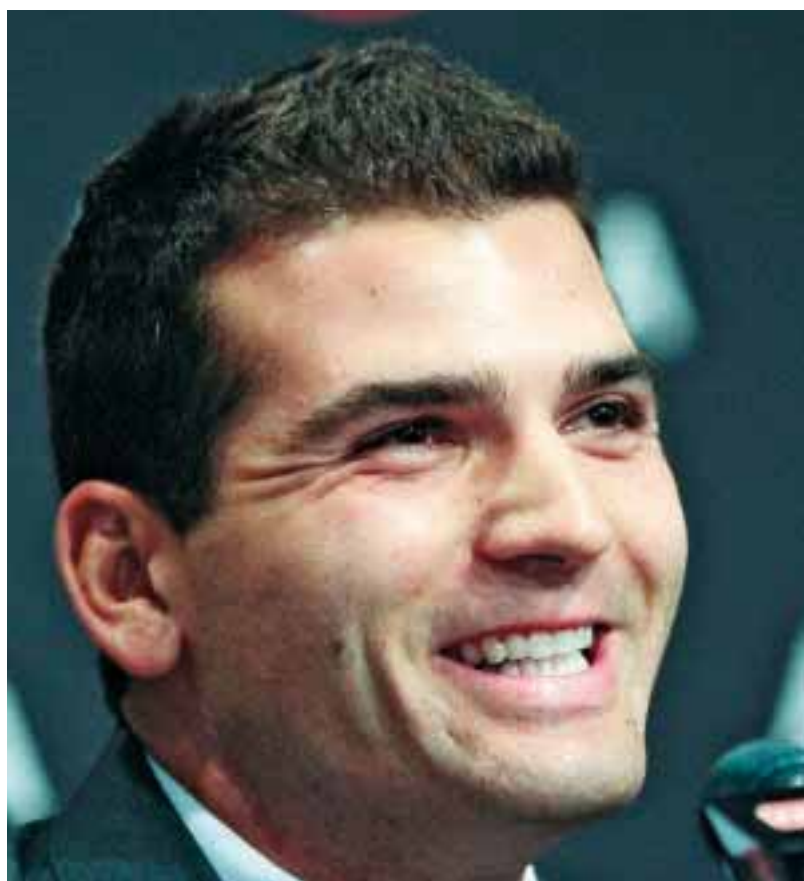
5

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Joey Votto smiles at Wednesday's news conference to announce his new contract in Cincinnati.

TONY TRIBBLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's official: Votto's a very, very rich man

MLB. Reds' first baseman awarded longest contract in baseball history — and one of the richest

Toronto's Joey Votto got a big payday by staying in a small market, agreeing to a \$251.5 million US, 12-year deal with the Cincinnati Reds on Wednesday that is the longest guaranteed contract in major league history.

The agreement adds \$225 million over 10 years to his previous contract. The deal includes a club option for 2024, when the 2010 National League MVP turns 41.

After watching NL Central rivals St. Louis and Milwaukee lose their first basemen to bigger markets, the Reds secured Votto with a package that easily eclipsed Ken Griffey Jr.'s \$116.5 million, nine-year deal from 2000 as the largest in franchise history. In the majors, it trails only Alex Rodriguez's \$275 million and

\$252 million deals, both over 10 years.

"Is it risky?" said owner Bob Castellini, who sought a lot of outside advice before signing off on the deal. "No doubt. That's the environment we live in, especially as a small market. We feel Joe will be a cornerstone."

It wasn't an easy decision for the 28-year-old Votto to make such a long-term commitment. He decided he had found contentment in Cincinnati, which took him in the second round of the 2002 amateur draft.

"Maybe I could have found that elsewhere," Votto said. "Maybe not. But I like what I've got here."

Under Castellini, the Reds have been trying to rebuild the franchise into a regular winner by developing players and holding onto them. Six of their nine starters on opening day have come through the farm system.

Keeping Votto rather than letting him leave for a bigger market was considered a key.

"It's hard to compete with the bigger markets," man-

Quoted

"I can't promise you anything going forward. I can't promise you health or promise you production. I can promise you I'll do my best."

Joey Votto

ager Dusty Baker said before a workout at Great American Ball Park. "You see those guys who have left — they couldn't come up with a deal — and they go to bigger markets like New York, L.A., Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Anaheim."

"It means a lot not only for the franchise but also for the city. It means kids can grow up emulating him and pretending to be Joey Votto."

Albert Pujols helped St. Louis win the World Series, then got a \$240 million, 10-year deal from the Angels in December. Prince Fielder led Milwaukee to the division title, but left for a \$214 million, nine-year contract with the Tigers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Curling. Wins over Sweden and Scotland make Howard favourite for world gold

It was the toughest day on the schedule for Canada's Glenn Howard at the world men's curling championship.

The unbeaten Ontario skip didn't let up Wednesday against the formidable one-two punch of Sweden's Niklas Edin and Scotland's Tom Brewster, handing both playoff contenders the same fate as every other opponent he's faced so far.

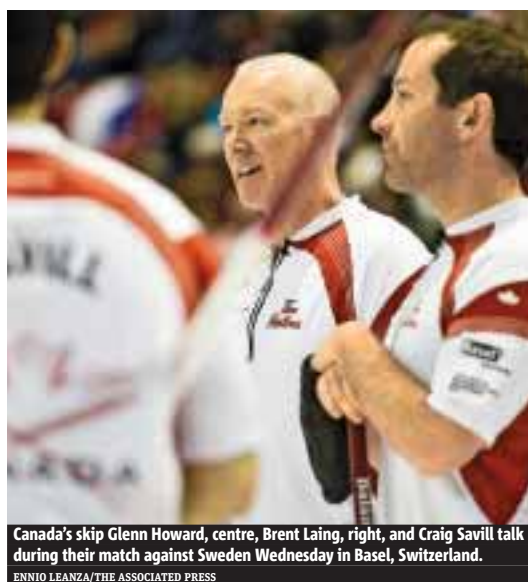
Along the way, Howard locked up the No. 1 seed and a berth in the Page 1-versus-2 playoff while showing the rest of the field why he's the clear favourite to win a world title for a fourth time.

"Every team that comes out here, we've got to play like they're the biggest ones here and that's what we do," Howard said.

Canada beat Edin 10-6 in the afternoon before topping Brewster 7-5 in the evening at St. Jakobshalle.

Howard showed again he has no trouble adjusting to the style of his opponent. He was up for a rollicking skins-style shootout against the aggressive Swedes, then used a steady, clinical style against the efficient Scots.

"Any team out here can beat us," Howard said. "I think they know that and they just have to get us on a bad day or (they're) on a good day. I don't think 9-0 intimidates them that much."



Canada's skip Glenn Howard, centre, Brent Laing, right, and Craig Savill talk during their match against Sweden Wednesday in Basel, Switzerland.

ENNIO LEANZA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"They've seen that we didn't dominate out here. We're out-playing (teams) a little bit. But we're still winning on last shot a lot of times."

Howard beat Scotland with a raise takeout on his final throw. After shaking hands, he spun around to wave to the contingent of flag-waving friends and family in the far reaches of the 9,000-seat venue. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Playoffs

- The winner of the Page 1-versus-2 playoff between the top two seeds Saturday advances straight to Sunday's final. The loser falls into a semifinal against the winner of the three-four playoff game.

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McIlroy shows no lead is safe at Masters

PGA. Nearly 40 per cent of the Masters have been won by eight players

The seven shots Rory McIlroy took on the 10th hole last year at the Masters remain a blur.

So was the rest of his final round at Augusta National, where the 22-year-old from Northern Ireland made the wrong kind of history. He started with a four-shot lead. He finished 10 shots behind after an 80, the highest closing

round by a 54-hole leader in 56 years.

If nothing else, it was a reminder how tenuous a lead can be in the final round.

Especially at the Masters. "It's a course that makes you really nervous," Australian golfer Geoff Ogilvy said.

There is an art to playing Augusta. For those seeking their first green jacket, let alone their first major, finishing it off can be a challenge.

Greg Norman lost a record six-shot lead in 1996. Ed Sneed had a five-shot lead in 1979, and was still three shots clear with three holes remaining

Tough task

"If you were to carry a decent lead into Sunday, you'd need a steel-trap mind to survive."

Three-time Masters winner Nick Faldo on the difficulties of protecting a lead in the final round.

when he made three straight bogeys and lost in a playoff. Ken Venturi was on the verge of becoming the only amateur to win the Masters in 1956 when he blew a four-shot lead. Like McIlroy, he shot an 80.

McIlroy's blown lead is enough of a memory going into the Masters. Adding to the emphasis is a bad habit of 54-hole leaders failing to win this year on the PGA Tour.

In 14 stroke-play events on the PGA Tour, only five players have gone on to win with at least a share of the third-round lead. With that kind of history, protecting a lead is not easy.

"Not even close to easy, as we've seen," Nick Faldo said.

He should know. Faldo is the only player with multiple Masters wins who has never had the lead going into the last day. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Gerry McIlroy, Rory McIlroy and Stewart Cink walk in front of the clubhouse during the Par 3 Contest prior to the start of the 2012 Masters at Augusta National Golf Club on Wednesday. ANDREW REDINGTON/GETTY IMAGES

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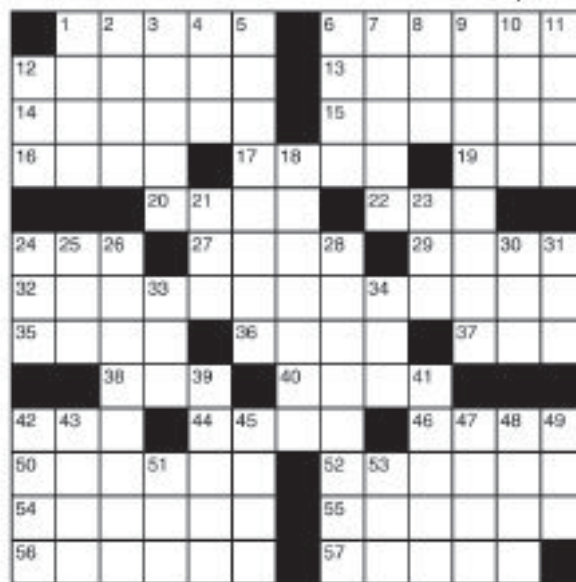
Crossword

Across

- 1 Sumatran ape
- 6 Van Gogh painting
- 12 Open declaration
- 13 El — (place of wealth)
- 14 Fidel's capital
- 15 Gave temporarily
- 16 Brewery creations
- 17 "— of Our Lives"
- 19 Modern-day evidence
- 20 Greet
- 22 Mai —
- 24 Witness
- 27 Cabin makeup
- 29 Night light
- 32 Half a bicycle-shop duo
- 35 "The best — schemes ..."
- 36 Busy as —
- 37 La-la lead-in
- 38 Comic Costello
- 40 Take ten
- 42 Not dis?
- 44 In apple-pie order
- 46 Parks or Bonheur
- 50 Ailing
- 52 Hurt
- 54 Ear affliction
- 55 Votes into office
- 56 Washington group
- 57 Staff

Down

- 1 Squashed circle
- 2 Wander
- 3 Inundated
- 4 A Bobsey twin
- 5 Iris' cousin
- 6 One way to stand by
- 7 Perch
- 8 401(k) alternative
- 9 Chargers' home
- 10 Paradise
- 11 Pop
- 12 "Eureka!"
- 18 Math course
- 21 Everything
- 23 Blackbird
- 24 Scale member
- 25 Mound stat
- 26 Plot-contrived villain
- 28 Fragrant flower
- 30 Kin of 12-Down
- 31 To the — degree
- 33 Bachelor's last words
- 34 — judicata
- 39 Dark
- 41 Took a whack at
- 42 Pairs
- 43 Initial stake
- 45 Otherwise
- 47 Previously



- 48 Soundstages
- 49 Billboards
- 51 Greek vowel
- 53 Will Smith biopic

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another.
Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

OUTZ XUFJWS FUS NQQQZP
CWUT SVZ VEFV-BIQOO
BUJQSWX BIIN CUW QUS
NZEQF BJISJWZP ZQUIFY
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU FAITHFULLY
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CALL THAT GOOD AURAL HYGIENE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals H

How to play



For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

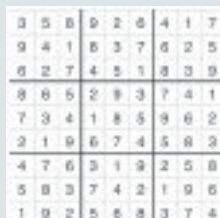
Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku



Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20.

There can be no half measures for you today. You know what you want and you know how to get it.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21.

Identify your priorities and resist the urge to start something new, even if it makes you extra money.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20.

Flex your muscles and remind those you live and work with that you are not the sort who is easily beaten. They'll back off.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22.

You'll discover something interesting about a friend today that they might prefer you and the world did not know. Be tactful. Try not to embarrass them.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. People like to think that they know best, but best for one individual is not necessarily best for another. Keep that in mind today.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22.

You can change something about your life that you no longer enjoy. Channel the time you save into more productive activities.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Follow your instincts and take a few chances today. You will get many more cheers than boos.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21.

You may be tempted to let someone get away with comments about you that are clearly untrue, maybe even defamatory. Don't.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21.

If there is something you want, you will find a way to get it, even if it means treading on a few toes and bruising a few egos.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan. 20.

Family members are in the driving seat at the moment so you might as well sit back and enjoy the ride. Everyone will do as you tell them today. There will be no shortage of people who want you to act for their benefit. Ignore them.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20.

You'll get the chance to show what you are made of today and to show that you have what it takes. **SALLY BROMPTON**



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MARTIN MEISSNER / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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